

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 20 through page 15, line 2 with the following paragraph:

a1 In the monitor state 122, the pumps 10 are polled by the VNC at each polling interval 100 to determine if any pumps 10 are operating at a limit status, described further below. A pump 10 operating at limit status is consuming at or near its maximum allowed consumption, and may need more helium to avoid warming up. A transition to the distribution per demand state 124 occurs when at least one pump 10 is reporting a limit status or when DP has dropped below a critical value. Distribution per demand 124 attempts to reallocate excess helium in the system in order to provide more helium to pumps 10 at limit, described further below with respect to Fig. 9. If distribution per demand 124 cannot reallocate sufficient helium to bring the pumps 10 out of limit status such that DP is still low, the system will transition to either an overload state 126 or a distribution per hierarchy state 128.

Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

In the Claims

Please cancel without prejudice Claims 29-50, 52-55, 65-75 and 79-81.

Please amend Claims 7, 10 and 12. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

a2 7. (Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein computing and recomputing in the master controller occurs according to a predetermined set of rules and thresholds.

a3 10. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the demand is indicative of a rate of refrigerant consumption over time.

a4 12. (Amended) The method of claim 11 wherein the at least one operating parameter is a differential pressure (DP).